



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Pocatello Field Office
4350 Cliffs Drive
Pocatello, Idaho 83204-2105
(208) 478-6340



In Reply Refer To:
3100 (LLIDI02000)
IDI-38711
DOI-BLM-ID-I020-2018-0012-EA

March 22, 2018

Dear Interested Public:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Idaho State Office received an expression of interest for approximately 836.23 acres of lands located in Bonneville County, Idaho, approximately 10 miles northwest of Gray, Idaho, to be offered in a competitive oil and gas lease sale. The entire acreage involves split estate minerals where the mineral estate is reserved to the Federal government and the surface is privately owned. The legal description of the parcel, serialized as case IDI-38711, is as follows:

Boise Meridian, Idaho
Township 3 South, Range 43 East,
section 7, lot 3, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
section 8, NE $\frac{1}{4}$;
section 9, E $\frac{1}{2}$;
section 17, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$;
section 18, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) associated with the 2012 Pocatello Resource Management Plan (2012 Pocatello RMP) was developed to meet National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements in support of leasing decisions. The area requested for competitive leasing also lies within a Greater Sage-Grouse (GRSG) General Habitat Management Area (GHMA), as identified in the 2015 Record of Decision and Approved Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Amendment for Idaho and Southwestern Montana (2015 GRSG ARMPA). A Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DOI-BLM-I020-2017-0020-DNA) tiered to the 2012 Pocatello RMP EIS and 2015 GRSG ARMPA was prepared by the Pocatello Field Office on August 21, 2017 to determine the availability of the requested lands and develop stipulations to be attached to the lease. The Idaho State Office posted the notice for sale of competitive oil and gas lease IDI-38711 on November 20, 2017 followed by 30-day protest period. Two protest letters were received by the Idaho State Office on December 20, 2017. On January 11, 2018, the Idaho State Director withdrew Parcel IDI-38711 from the lease sale concluding that BLM would conduct further analysis of impacts of leasing the parcel, in accordance with NEPA.

This letter is intended to inform you that the BLM Pocatello Field Office has completed a preliminary Environmental Assessment (EA) (DOI-BLM-ID-I020-2018-0012-EA) and unsigned Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) which document the availability of the requested lands and development of stipulations to be attached to the lease following the competitive sale. The documents also serve to verify conformance with the approved land use plan and provide the rationale for the Field Office's recommendation to offer or to defer particular parcels from a lease sale.

The BLM Pocatello Field Office is providing a 15-day public review and comment period for the preliminary EA and unsigned FONSI beginning March 27, 2018 and ending April 10, 2018. The documents are available on BLM's Eplanning NEPA register at https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do. The documents may also be viewed at the BLM Pocatello Field Office during regular business hours (8:00am to 4:30pm), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Please identify whether you are submitting comments as an individual or as the designated spokesperson on behalf of an organization. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Comments received from the public will be reviewed and incorporated into the EA as appropriate.

Comments must be submitted to:

Bureau of Land Management
Pocatello Field Office
Attn: Bryce Anderson
4350 Cliffs Drive
Pocatello, Idaho 83204

Electronic comments may be submitted to Bryce Anderson via email at bdanderson@blm.gov.

If you have any questions please contact Bryce Anderson, Geologist, at (208) 478-6353 or via email at bdanderson@blm.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/ Melissa Warren

Melissa Warren
Field Manager

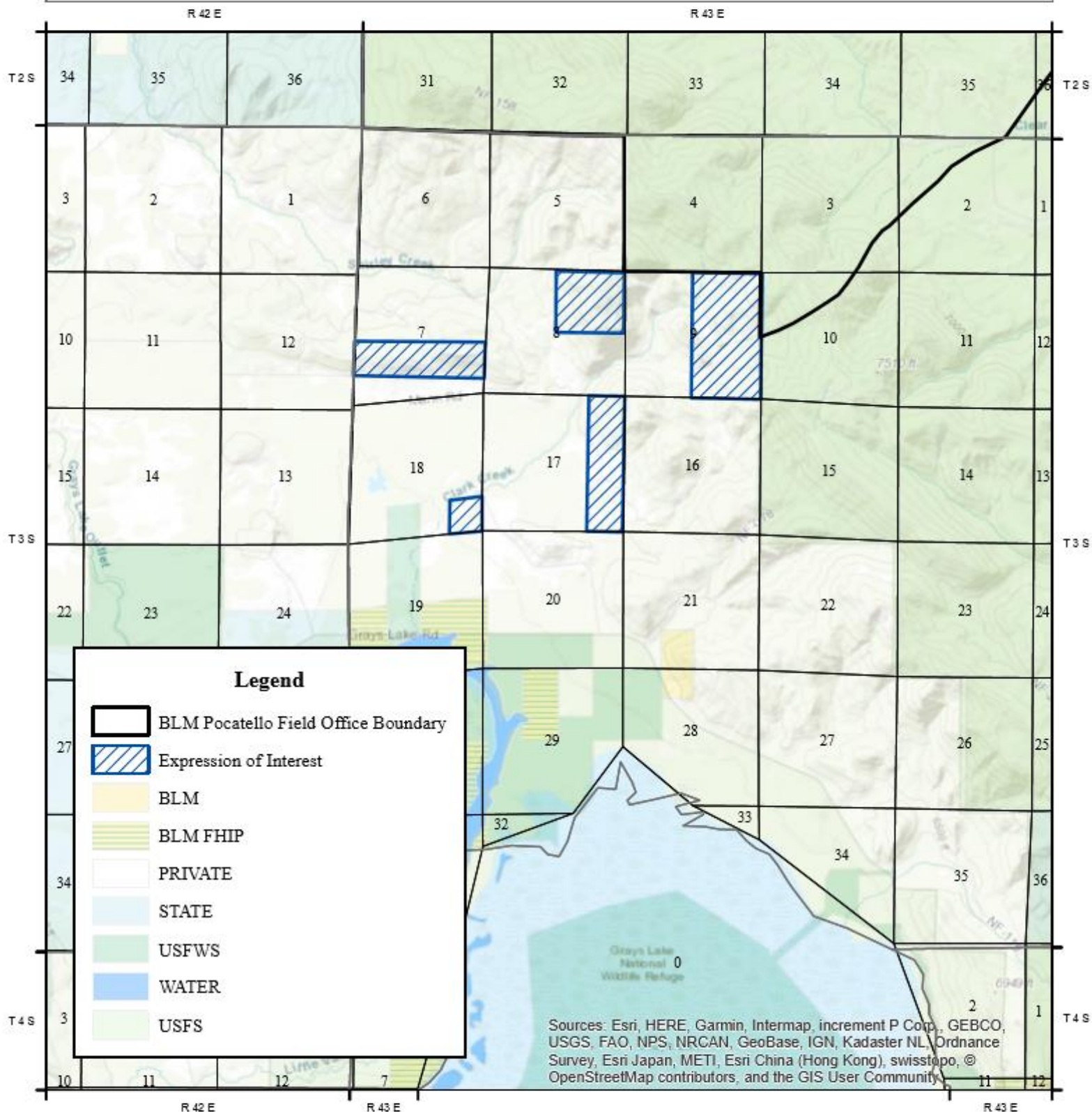
Attachments:

1 – Figure 1. Lands Nominated for Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale.

Cc w/enclosures:

Karen Porter, BLM Idaho State Office

Figure 1. Lands Nominated for Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale.



Map Created: 2/14/2017

The surface management status ("land ownership") should be used as a general guide only. Official land records, located at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and other offices, should be checked for up-to-date information concerning any specific tract of land.

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management. The accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data is not guaranteed. The following cannot be made Section 508 compliant. For help with its data or information, please contact the BLM Idaho State Office Webmaster at 208-373-4000.

1:62,500
0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles
Map Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N

